

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **CROSSROADS**

“Crossroads”, a new joint project by ABCD and the Museum Montanelli presents works by three contemporary international art brut artists who share a common theme: the city as a place for life. With his three-dimensional residential modules and their elaborate interior furnishings, German artist Stefan Häfner creates his own vision of the “city of the future.” Belgium’s Marcel Schmitz produces drawings, paintings, and graphic works through which he explores the anonymous city as a monotonous planned structure composed of various layers of two-dimensional planes. On pieces of paper pasted together into strips several meters long, the recently discovered Czech artist Ota Prouza draws endless tangles of roads, highway interchanges, railroads and tracks surrounded by skyscrapers seen from a bird’s-eye perspective. All three “mental urbanists” present their vision of an absolutely depopulated or dehumanized future in which there is no more place for man because the buildings, roads, and rails have taken on a life of their own. It is as if the city has metamorphosed into a sprawling organism that has consumed human society, which by its own hypertrophy has forfeited its right to exist. The city’s windows are transformed into thousands of mosaic-like insect eyes, the roads are like arteries whose intersections resemble bodily organs, trucks and trains take on anthropomorphic features. They are “different cities” – though born of human design, they no longer need mankind for their existence. They throb with their own pulse, they feed themselves and live their own lives. We encounter them on “The Day After,” immediately following a catastrophe that has passed without notice.

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Deutsches Architekturmuseum, Frankfurt am Main, Germany  
La "S" Grand atelier, Vielsalm, Belgium

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**The exhibition runs from 20 November 2015 to 28 February 2016**

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